United Nations

Press Release

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THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Secretary-General appeals to all parties in Western Sahara to refrain from acts that might compromise United Nations Referendum Plan.

- Secretary-General expresses encouragement over recent talks on possible elements of an overall framework agreement on Cyprus held by his Personal Representative.

- Pele is introduced as Goodwill Ambassador for Earth Summit, scheduled for next summer in Rio de Janeiro.

- Heitor Gurgulino de Suoza is appointed Rector of United Nations University for second term.

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A United Nations spokesman announced today that Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar had called on the parties in Western Sahara to refrain from acts that might compromise the United Nations Referendum Plan.

The Secretary-General's appeal is coming on the eve of the entry into force of the cease-fire, which has been accepted by the parties in the context of the UN plan.

The spokesman said the Secretary-General wished to reiterate the vital importance that attached to the parties abiding by their commitments and to the complete halting of all their military operations, including troop movements and reinforcements, as well as all acts of violence or intimidation that might compromise the implementations of the Plan.

The first 50 military observers, as well as 15-20 civilians, were scheduled to leave for Western Sahara today, in order to be in place in the advance post for the supervision of the cease-fire tomorrow, 6 September.

The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) is expected to comprise a total of 240 UN personnel, including 100 military observers and a small medical team.

(more)

For information media—not an official record

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The Secretary-General has expressed encouragement over a report by his Personal Representative, Oscar Camilion, and the alternate Personal Representative, Gustave Feissel, indicating that the discussions that have taken place to date might bear the possible elements of an an overall framework agreement on Cyprus.

A UN Spokesman said the Secretary-General was of the view that a high-level international meeting in September to conclude this agreement remained possible. To that end, he said, the Secretary-General calls on all concerned to redouble their efforts and cooperate with his representatives in completing the work in the coming days.

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The third round of preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, currently held in Geneva, has resumed consideration of cross-sectoral issues, taking up sustainability, the international economy, integrated economic-environmental accounting and economic instruments.

During the meeting, Edson Arantes do Nascimento Pele, Goodwill Ambassador for the Earth Summit, in a brief appearance before the Committee, thanked the Secretary-General of the Conference, Maurice Strong, for giving him "this very, very hard job". He added: "This team is our team. We do not play against anything but for something -- for a better future for the world."

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The Secretary-General has re-appointed Heitor Urgulino de Souza rector of the United Nations University for another term of five years, starting from 1 September 1992.

Mr. de Souza, a national of Brazil, was first appointed Rector of the United Nations University for a five-year term on 1 September 1987. At the time of his first appointment, he was the President of the Latin American University Group, the head of the Planning Commission of the Federal Council of Education in the Brazilian Ministry of Education, and a member of the United Nations University Council.

The United Nations University was established by the General Assembly in 1972. It began operations from its headquarters office in Tokyo, Japan, in 1975.

As an international community of scholars, the University is engaged in research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge into pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare.

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